

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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DEPT PASS NOAA FOR MARTINEAU

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TOCY, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR OCEANS AGREEMENT: MARINE FOULING ORGANISMS

(06.0505) POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT OF DR. RUTH TURNER AND

MR. WALTER NELSON

REF: STATE 171865

1. EMB INFORMED METAL'NIKOV OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SCST) THAT TURNER AND NELSON NEEDED TO KNOW BY NOON JULY 25 (WASHINGTON TIME) WHETHER THEY WOULD BE ALLOWED TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION. HOWEVER, METAL'NIKOV TOLD EMB LATER THAT DECISION ON THE TURNER/NELSON VISIT WOULD NOT BE MADE UNTIL NEXT WEEK. ACCORDING TO METAL'NIKOV, SCST IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR THE VISIT, HOWEVER, HE REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON THE POSSIBLE OUTCOME. METAL'NIKOV NOTED THAT ARRANGING VISITS TO THE FAR EAST IS ALWAYS A "COMPLICATED BUSINESS". METAL'NIKOV INDICATED THAT THE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO ARRANGE A SYMPOSIUM AT THE FAR EASTERN BIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, LOCATED 38 KILOMETERS OUTSIDE OF NAKHODKA. STATUS OF VLADIVOSTOK VISIT IS UNCLEAR.

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2. METAL'NIKOV RECOMMENDED THAT IF TURNER AND NELSON MUST LAVE THE U.S. FOR JAPAN EARLY, THEY SHOULD APPLY FOR THEIR VISAS AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN TOKYO. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE, AS FAR AS WE KNOW, TURNER AND NELSON ARE SIMPLY PLANNING TO TRANSIT JAPAN EN ROUTE TO THE SOVIET UNION. METAL'NIKOV'S PLAN WOULD REQUIRE THEM TO MAKE LONG-TRIP SIMPLY ON THE CHANCE THAT THEIR VISAS WOULD BE ISSUED.

3. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR APPROVAL OF VISIT OR WHETHER WE SHOULD INFORM SCST THAT TURNER AND NELSON HAVE BEEN FORCED TO CANCEL THEIR PLANS TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION.

4. REFTTEL INDICATES THAT WORKING PROGRAM OF THE BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTIVITY AND BIOCHEMISTRY WORKING GROUP CALLED FOR TWO U.S. SCIENTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN JOINT RESEARCH IN VLADIVOSTOK AND IN OTHER SOVIET CITIES. IF THE SOVIETS DO NOT PERMIT TURNER AND NELSON TO CARRY OUT PREVIOUSLY AGREED JOINT WORK IN VLADIVOSTOK, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPT REFUSE PERMISSION FOR SOVIET SCIENTISTS IN THE U.S. UNDER THE WORLD OCEANS AGREEMENT TO VISIT SIMILAR CLOSED AREA IN THE U.S.
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